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January Clearance Sale Men's & Boys' Clothing Starts at Meigs & Co.'s

Great news for hundreds of men---news they've been waiting for expectantly. For all of the Sales in this section, ours is best known for its statement of facts backed up by the goods. So there will be instant response to this announcement, we know from experience.

Overcoats for men---Overcoats for young men --- Fancy suits in smartest new models --- Suits for men who like conservative --- the sale holds them all in great variety, of incomplete lines, AND AT REDUCED PRICES.

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Bridgeport, Conn.

REV. H.D. PIERCE ASSUMES PULPIT OF LOCAL CHURCH

Memorial Baptist Congregation
Welcomes Former Rockville Pastor.

Rev. H. Douglas Pierce, for the last two years pastor of the Rockville Baptist church, will begin his pastorate at the Memorial Baptist church, Sunday, Jan. 3. Mr. Pierce preached at the Memorial Baptist church Nov. 28 to two large and appreciative audiences. He made so favorable an impression while he was in this city that the following week the church extended him a unanimous call to be their next pastor.

Mr. Pierce was born in Worthing, Sussex, England, in 1838. He was educated in English schools, and came to this country to complete a theological education in 1860. He attended the Gordon school of the Newington Theological Institution, Boston, Mass., from which he graduated, president of his class, with honors, in 1873. He married November 4, 1872, in Arlington Mass., Miss Doris Gwendolen Drage of Worthing, Sussex, Eng. They have one child, a daughter, six months old. Mrs. Pierce has been a great help-spirit, assisting her husband in his various activities in church work. The church is looking forward to one of the best years in its history. "Everybody go to church, Sunday," will be observed next Sunday. Every member and his friends are expected to give the pastor a hearty welcome. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce will take up their residence at 1529 Norman street.

SKIPPER IS DROWNED AS GALE HITS SHIP

New York, Dec. 28.—The steamer Escalona arrived in New York today from Liverpool with a tale of tragedy at sea as signalled to her by Morse code from the British steamer Cheviot Range from Povey, England, to Philadelphia. During a hurricane on Dec. 22, so the Cheviot Range reported, the skipper, Captain Fell, was washed overboard and drowned, and great seas boarding the ship smashed bridges and did other damage. No assistance was asked, however.

BI-MONTHLY SERVICE AT PARK STREET CHURCH TO BE HELD TONIGHT

The bi-monthly preparatory service of Park Street Congregational church will be held at 7:45 this evening. Rev. Gerald H. Beard will give the address on "Looking Backward." Mrs. Edward H. Willmann will sing. A responsive service for the Old and the New Year will be used by the people.

NEW YEAR'S DAY TRAIN SERVICE.

On New Year's Day the New York, New Haven & Hartford R. R., following its usual custom, will discontinue a number of local trains into New York in the morning and return trains in the afternoon.

Notices have been posted in the railroad stations informing the public of special stops that will be made by regular trains into and out of the city to cover the service dispensed with on that holiday.

Commissioner William L. Zepp, at the meeting of the Board of Health last night, recommended the creation of a city ordinance making the term of a sanitary health inspector four years instead of one year.

ELOQUENT DIVINE TO ADDRESS MEN'S CLUB OF TRINITY CHURCH

The Very Rev. Wilford L. Robbins, D.D., dean of the General Theological seminary, New York city, will be the principal speaker at the first meeting of the Men's club of Trinity Episcopal church next Monday evening. A complimentary dinner to the men of the parish will be served at 6:30. Dean Robbins has preached at Trinity church a number of times and is a most delightful after-dinner speaker, one of the best in New York city. The rector of the church, Rev. Clinton W. Areson, is much interested in the work of the club. An effort will be made to make the Men's club of more interest this year in such matters as come within their province or in civic matters if the club sees fit to take them up.

The annual election of officers will take place at the close of the meeting. The committee of arrangements for the dinner is J. M. Saxton, George H. Edwards, Wallace A. Smith, H. S. Pearson and R. D. Goddard.

TWO OVERCOME BY GAS, ESCAPE DEATH

Michael McGuinness, aged 27, and Michael Richardson, aged 32, employees of the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co., narrowly escaped death when they were asphyxiated by gas escaping from a heater at their home, 185 Wordin avenue. The emergency hospital corps revived both men, who were in a serious condition.

GERMANS HAVE GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR COTTON

Bremen, Germany, Dec. 29.—Germany's experiments with substitutes for cotton in the manufacture of gunpowder have been so successful, it was disclosed here today, that for eight months no cotton has been used for this purpose. This statement was made by the president of the Bremen chamber of commerce, in an address to a convention of merchants of this city.

CARNEGIE TO SPEND SUMMER AT NOROTON

Noroton, Dec. 29.—Andrew Carnegie will not open Skibo Castle, Scotland, next year, for he has arranged to spend the coming summer in this country when he closes his city home on upper Fifth avenue, New York. Mr. Carnegie has leased the "Brick House" estate of the late Anson Phelps Stokes, at Noroton. The Stokes estate comprises 10½ acres on the extreme end of Long Neck Point, jutting into Long Island Sound. Besides the master's house, containing approximately 40 rooms, there are three cottages, a large stable, garage, greenhouse, with formal rose gardens, a stone pier, and bathhouse.

PRICE OF MUNICH BEER WITHIN REACH OF ALL

Munich, Dec. 29.—Residents of the Bavarian capital will be permitted to enjoy their beer without a further increase in price. The municipality recently authorized breweries and beer halls to raise the wholesale and retail prices of beer for the second time during the war. An appeal was taken to the provincial authorities who today disallowed the increase.

BRUSSELS PLANT TO REOPEN.

Brussels, Dec. 29.—The glass works at Marcmont, Jenapper and Dampremy, which have been closed since the outbreak of the war, are to be reopened on full time on Jan. 3. A large number of workmen will be employed.

MARIO PETRUCCELLI TO WED IN FEBRUARY

The wedding of Miss Marjorie Suzzio, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonardo Suzzio of Meriden and Marion C. Petrucelli of this city, will take place probably in the last part of February.

Announcement of the engagement was made last Sunday at the home of the bride-to-be's parents. Miss Suzzio is on a vacation from Lauriston hall, in Milford, where she is taking a classical course. Relatives and a few close friends of the families were present when the announcement was made.

Miss Suzzio is a charming young woman of many talents. Her father is a contractor of prominence in Meriden. The Suzzio family lives at 171 Foster street, Meriden.

RUSSIANS TAKE PERSIAN TOWNS.

London, Dec. 29.—Russian troops have occupied the important Persian town of Kashan, according to the Tehran correspondent of Reuters.

PRISONERS AT SOFIA.

Sofia, Dec. 29.—A Havas despatch from Athens quotes Bulgarian newspapers as announcing the arrival at Sofia, of British prisoners of war who, it is said, were marched through the streets amid hostile demonstrations on the part of the people.

Most Eminent Medical Authorities Endorse It.

Dr. Eberle and Dr. Braithwaite as well as Dr. Simon—all distinguished authorities—agree that whatever may be the disease, the urine seldom fails in furnishing with a clue to the principles upon which it is to be treated, and accurate knowledge concerning the nature of disease can thus be obtained. If backache, scalding urine or frequent urination bother or distress you, or if uric acid in the blood has caused rheumatism, gout or sciatica or you suspect kidney or bladder trouble just write Dr. Pierce at the Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N.Y.; send a sample of urine and describe symptoms. You will receive free medical advice after Dr. Pierce's chemist has examined the urine—this will be carefully done without charge, and you will be under no obligation. Dr. Pierce during many years of experimentation has discovered a new remedy which he finds is thirty-seven times more powerful than lithia in removing uric acid from the system. If you are suffering from backache or the pains of rheumatism, go to your best druggist and ask for a 50-cent box of "Americ" put up by Dr. Pierce. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for weak women and Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery for the liver and bowels have been favorably known for the past forty years and more. They are standard remedies to-day—as well as Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets for the liver and bowels. You can get a sample of any one of these remedies by writing Dr. Pierce.

Doctor Pierce's Pellets are unequalled as a Liver Pill. One tiny, Sugar-coated Pellet a Day. Cure Sick Headache, Bilious Headache, Dizziness, Constipation, Indigestion, Bilious Attacks, and all derangements of the Liver, Stomach and Bowels.

NEW WAR ORDERS TO MUNITIONS FACTORIES STRIKE BLOW AT PEACE

New York, Dec. 29.—Large additional war orders—most of them placed with an injunction of secrecy—have been received in the past month or six weeks by those American corporations whose operations are all but inseparable to the Allies. Some of these companies have sold their entire output of munitions five and six years ahead. Many of them have contracted for continuous delivery for two years.

These new and largely increased orders, it is learned, have impressed officers of big munition companies as of the highest significance, for the reason that at about the time the negotiations for the \$500,000,000 Anglo-French loan were in their final stages, there was a lull in the placing of orders, and this inactivity continued for some time after conclusion of the negotiations.

\$200,000,000 Order.
An idea of the amount of these new war orders may be derived from the fact that one company has secured an aggregate of \$200,000,000 in new contracts in the last few months.

The reluctance of the allies to place new contracts in that period created the inference that peace negotiations might be undertaken in the then near future. But in the last month orders to some companies have been doubled and trebled, as well as placed for delivery in the remote future, and now the conclusion among munition makers is that the allies expect the war to be long drawn out.

Reasons for placing orders for delivery through two years are that, even in the event of a termination of hostilities before that time, there would be the contingency that the allies would be little more than a truce and leave Europe a camp which still must be armed, and that the mobilization of workers in the British munition factories has not been attended with complete success because of a scarcity of skilled labor.

Many Plants Increased.
Most of the big orders of the past month have been for arms, ammunition, motor vehicles, railroad supplies, rubber, copper, steel and pig iron. For munitions the orders have been so great as to necessitate further additions to the large plants.

The Bethlehem Steel Corporation, already pushed to its capacity has been ordered to increase its output of straight delivery, to say nothing of its business in fabricated steel, particularly structural steel, for domestic delivery. Mr. Schwab, it has just been learned, has been authorized to purchase control of other steel plants, finding the prices asked by the owners exorbitant to his mind. As an alternative he has decided on additional plants at Bethlehem, which he has long hoped to make the equal, if not the superior, of the Krupp plant at Essen.

In addition to its European business Bethlehem Steel has been negotiating big contracts with China and Chile. As a sidelight on the development of business at the Schwab plants it has become known that, in protection against spying and violence, the force of secret police has been increased by 4,000 men. The Schwab plants are now as closely guarded as an armed camp. Workmen with the works are also scrutinized more closely since the French have destroyed the Leclercq factories for the manufacture of big guns.

Next to the Schwab plants, which have been so necessary to the allies that Mr. Schwab could charge his own price, the biggest of the recent orders are understood to have gone to the Midvale Steel & Ordnance Co. William E. Corey, who spent the greater part of his time in France from his retirement as president of the United States Steel Corporation to the outbreak of the war, is understood to have negotiated personally with the French government the \$30,000,000 order for 12-inch shells which was announced from Philadelphia on Friday.

Midvale is also bidding on contracts for armament for delivery in South America. The Midvale is now reported to have \$10,000,000 in orders on its books, these including the orders for Leclercq rifles placed with its subsidiary, the Remington Arms Co. of Delaware. In order to handle the increased business, Mr. Corey, William Rockefeller and their associates are understood to be looking for acquisitions such as the Pook Engineering & Machine Co. of Baltimore, which has \$17,000,000 of war contracts and which was reported all but sold to the Midvale in a despatch Saturday.

Prosperity is Widespread.
On account of this revival of the war order business, arrangements are also understood to be under way for the reorganization of the International Powder Co., so that its principal munitions subsidiary, the American and British Manufacturing Co., may be merged with another company or extend its business on its own account.

Other big orders just reported are \$14,000,000 worth of steel freight cars for the Russian government by the Pressed Steel Car Co., the order having been secured by F. N. Hoffstadt, the president, and payment to be made through the sale of Russian Imperial Government 5 per cent. notes by the National City Bank, and a large contract for automobiles and steel axle between the Standard Steel Car Co. and France and England. Spain also is reported as having placed a \$20,000,000 munitions order in the United States within the last few weeks.

The new influx of orders has also added greatly to the business on the books of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing, Baldwin Locomotive, and the Winchester Arms, Marlin and Colt's Companies.

The Colt's Repeating Arms Co. is understood to have booked business for six years ahead. These companies also have in prospect a large amount of business for the United States government in case a large preparedness program is adopted. Most of their recent orders have come from Canada and England.

Sweden Only Competitor.
The United States Steel Corporation, though not engaging directly in war manufacture, is doing a large business in the production of basic materials for the war companies, and is also profiting, particularly in its

structural steel department, from the activity of its domestic competitors in the war business. In the export trade in structural steel, Sweden is now the only real foreign competitor, and most of the Swedish output is sold to Germany.

Orders have also been placed for substantial amounts of clothing, shoes, woolen and cotton goods, though the total of these is small as compared with the munitions orders. An indication of the profits derivable from the war business is supplied by the list of companies which have already declared dividends aggregating \$104,748,000 and payable next month. This total is an increase of \$13,822,000 over January last. Prominent companies on the list which paid nothing last January, but whose business has improved on account of the war, are Allis-Chalmers, Associated Oil, Continental Can, Illinois Pipe Line, Maxwell Motors, marine Boat and Republic Iron and Steel. Increases over a year ago are to be paid by Anaconda, Bethlehem Steel, E. W. Bliss and Sloss-Sheffield.

BUILDING NOTES

Permits for buildings, the aggregate cost of which will be \$29,540, were granted by the building commissioners last night. The permits were:

Brick and frame cottage, north side of Fairfield avenue for A. W. Blycher.

One-family cottage, south side of Harlem avenue for Spargo and Winter.

One-family cottage east side of Bradley street, for Albert Harris.

New roof at west side of Lexington avenue for J. Capasillo.

Four-family dwelling, northeast corner Berkshire place and Stillman street for D. Epstein.

Two-family frame dwelling, west side of Bryant street for Lucie Peck.

Frame passageway, east side of Spruce street for Hawthorne Manufacturing Co.

A frame two-family house, south side of Rockton avenue for Charles Gay.

A frame two-family house, north side of North avenue for Mr. and Mrs. William J. Moran.

A frame two-family dwelling, north side of Springdale street for Mrs. Zaida P. Hammond.

Brick engine house, one story, west of Knowlton street for Bridgeport Crucible Co.

One-story cement block garage, private, east side of Iranistan avenue for T. K. Orton.

CHIEF OF SERB ARMY, ILL, LEAVES CHARGES

Paris, Dec. 29.—General Radomir Putnik, chief of the general staff of the Serbian army, has given up his position temporarily by order of his doctors, according to a despatch from Belgrade. It is stated that General Putnik's command of the First Serbian army, will take General Putnik's place during the latter's absence.

AUSTRIANS CHECK RUSSIANS

Berlin, Dec. 29.—The Czernowitz (Bukovina) correspondent of the Tagblatt sends the following: "The Russians have made attacks against the Austrians on the Rzeszow-Rabibor border since Christmas night. Despite a tremendous expenditure of ammunition and men the attacking forces have not yet succeeded in breaking through the lines. The Russians maintained a gunfire for 25 hours which was audible in Czernowitz."

ITALIANS REACH ALBANIA

Paris, Dec. 29.—"Italian troops which disembarked at Avlona, Albania, have reached the vicinity of the northern frontier of Epirus in some places, according to reports from voyagers arriving from Santa Quanta," says the Athens correspondent of the Havas Agency. "Italian troops also have been seen near Tepelini, (southern Albania)."

Gen. Granville M. Dodge is seriously ill at Council Bluffs, Ia.

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